

3. Twelve Fifty Redux

by Ucaoinhu

Capitol

(Solve only after solving Puzzles 1 and 2.)

While I didn't bring a cryptic to the 1997 DC convention, I did have one there; my first variety cryptic, "Twelve Fifty," was in the July 1997 *Enigma*. In this puzzle (using the same grid, now adorned with DC streets and avenue names):

(1) One third of the 45 clues' answers must be altered before entry: (a) five will (we hear) be altered by a web of spies that creates a net where once there was not, (b) five will swap one US bill (valuewise) for one five times as valuable (one such bill no longer circulates), and (c) five will be anagrammed. (Altered entries will include three proper names, a phrase, and an abbreviation.) Each (c) clue contains a word starting with N, S, W, or E; if it is the *n*th word of the clue, highlight the square in the corresponding direction from the *n*th square of the entry. The highlighted locations will correspond to the key locations from Puzzles 1 and 2, two locations appropriate to alterations (a) and (b), and the key location for *this* puzzle (which is appropriate to this puzzle's title and venue.)

(2) Another third of the clues work normally and have their answers entered normally. The highlighted letters from (1), in some order, will spell out one member of a group of four; the three other members occur in three (2) clues, whose answers in the grid both mark off and name this puzzle's key location. The other twelve (2) clues each contain a six-letter sequence consisting of the highlighted letters in some order surrounding a single letter; the single letters, in clue order, will tell you something you might not believe is true about the key location.

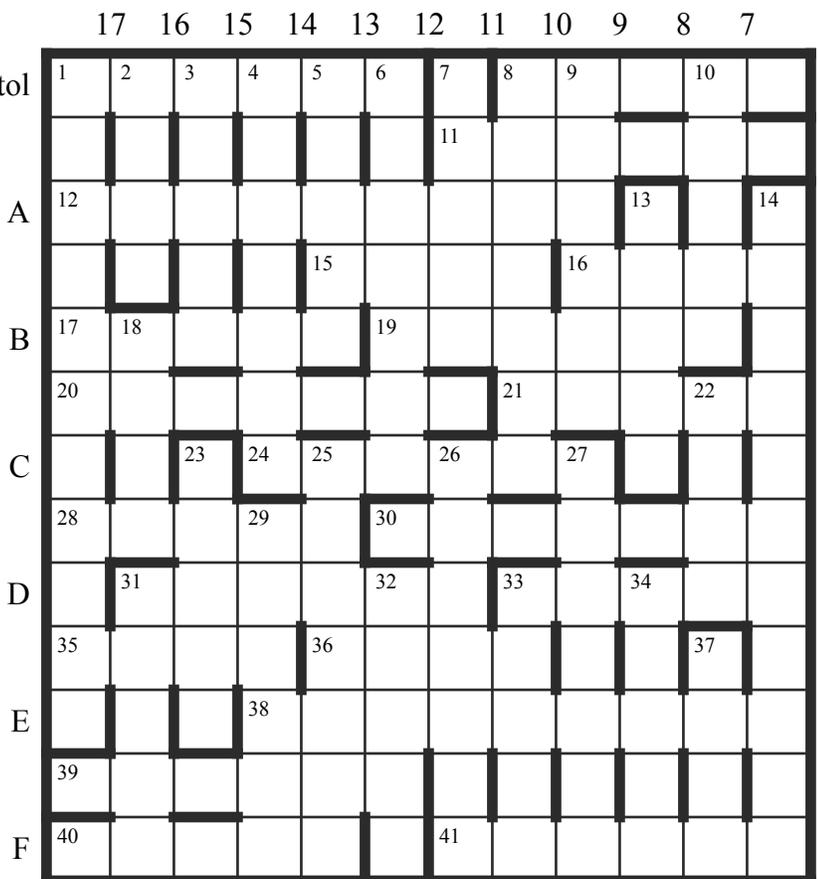
(3) Each of the remaining clues (whose answers are also entered normally) has wordplay yielding a letter sequence in which one letter is wrong. Put together the final terms extracted in Puzzles 1 and 2 into one multiword sequence. Then:

(a) For the (3) clues with the definition at the *beginning*, the wrong letters and separately the right letters (each in clue order) will spell out two terms, X and Y. Phonetically transform the sequence you have as per (1a), but applying it to X rather than Y.

(b) Now do (a) again with *beginning* and 1a changed to *end* and 1b (but still transforming the sequence phonetically). The result will be a particular set of teeming multitudes all around us for whom the fact from (2) is definitely true.

ACROSS

1. Using (e.g.) grams of mass, almost without flexibility
8. Droids with blue-and-orange shirts
11. Shout like soprano Maria
12. Movies about ice blocks you put near mother (2 wds.)
15. Legendary king of the Huns resembling leader from AD 151
16. Word paired with Coburg in the name of a dynasty of reflective former Oakland ballplayers
17. Grand individual is no longer there
19. Celtic language's less absent remnants
20. Meg let hairy swallows answer some chicken (2 wds.)
21. Like a well-pitched game (oho!) in New Troy (*hyph.*)
24. Horns irk songwriter/inventor Paul
28. Person that terminates "adult" Manx dancing
30. Purpose of *Fire-Eating Dogs Hour*
31. Locution from nonpeaceful interactions on the podium
33. Prefix meaning "of big vessels in spot Noah left"
35. Suffix on "sap" or "sal" that is not unloved
36. Gutsy parts actress Swinton topped



38. Painting on wet plaster inscribed with an average name many men share, Italy-wide
39. Muck-tossing couple from England calls forth "Seasons in the Sun" lyricist Rod
40. Scum has little might
41. Where some koi might be quietly running down

DOWN

1. Part of the heart muscle wasn't hollow trio of alveoli, doubly coated with rhenium (2 wds.)
2. Ernesto Guevara, below old darts player's line
3. Hellenic character with Kojak's first name: Ace
4. Once more, go up river branch to get RC [NI2]
5. Indiana eats 1/3 of lichee a Trojan relabeled [NI3]
6. Penny, supported by empty air, turned left in the middle
7. Lady had flipped over author Roald
8. Odd aspects of academia linked with Pooh's creator (3 wds.)
9. Oi! Sal Brenner, heading north, axes the palindromic half-word in a Gotham mayor's name
10. Boxer's meeting true elite (*hyph.*)
13. Manly DA meets John, who plays Sulu
14. Kind of five-sided Ivy League school ID you attach created irritation, reportedly [NI3]
18. Spirits (i.e., gin) will be drunk
22. Retro numbers in overtureless hit are not singular
23. Demon-cursed word after "haut" in a term for "high society"
25. And *German Embracing Eire* is not broadcast [NI3]
26. Geek, grabbing husband, evacuated Narnia's underworld
27. Puts back boxes or (at the beginning) entire cache (2 wds.)
29. Being a smoothie, a right end from Cardiff starts in Ulster
31. Painting on dry plaster, anhydrous limestone, xeric talc, & gesso, ultimately
32. What one might water, as one's 20th course of action?
33. Top size of the petiter, ghastly Capua (2 wds.)
34. Pliable willow twig that Josie rigidly holds
37. Ecstasy, MDMA, and Molly paid for by oil company